

**U.S. Embassy Pristina, Kosovo/U.S Embassy Skopje, Macedonia**

**Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Protests at Hani i Elezit Border Crossing**

**September 10, 2013**

U.S. Embassy Pristina and U.S. Embassy Skopje inform U.S. citizens of local media reports that there are ongoing protests on both sides of the Hani i Elezit border crossing point on Route E65 between Kosovo and Macedonia regarding a trade dispute between the two countries. Protestors have blocked private vehicles from transiting the border crossing and caused long lines for pedestrian traffic. U.S. citizens are advised to avoid the border crossing, if possible, while protests continue. Additionally, the Government of Macedonia has established the following border crossing fees for Kosovo citizens and vehicles: five EUR per private vehicle, 10 EUR per bus or commercial truck, and two EUR per passenger or pedestrian.

We remind U.S. citizens that even protests intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Both Embassy Pristina and Embassy Skopje will provide updates if there are significant developments in protest activity.

Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security and follow instructions of local authorities.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Kosovo and Macedonia enroll in the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's website at <http://travel.state.gov>, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for Kosovo](#).

For additional information, refer to "[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free from within the United States and Canada, or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) at and [Facebook](#) at, and download our free Smart Traveler app, available through the [iTunes store](#) and the [Google Play store](#), for travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Pristina, Kosovo is located at 30 Nazim Hikmet St. Arberia/Dragodan, 10000 Pristina and is open between 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., (381) 38-5959-3000 . If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, **the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy is (381)**

**38-5959-3000.** At this time U.S. Embassy Pristina provides only emergency services to U.S. citizens.

The U.S. Embassy in Skopje, Macedonia, is located at ul. Samoilova 21, 1000 Skopje and is open between 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., (389) 2-310-2000. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, **the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy is (389) 2-310-2000.**